



Frequently Asked Questions About the Russell Township Police Replacement Levy

July 1, 2013

The Russell Township Board of Trustees and the Fiscal Officer are proposing that the Township undertake a replacement of their 1975 1.50 mill continuing levy. This levy is necessary to provide and maintain motor vehicles, communications, and other equipment, buildings, and sites for such buildings used directly in the operation of a police department or the payment of permanent or part-time police, communications, or administrative personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 742.33 of the Ohio Revised Code, or for the payment of the costs incurred by Townships as a result of contracts made with other political subdivisions in order to obtain police protection or the provision of ambulance or medical services operated by a police department.

This replacement of a continuing levy will set in place funding that is necessary to permit self-sustainability of the Township's Police Department efforts. This replacement 1.50 mill continuing levy will be presented to voters at the November 5, 2013 election.

Question: How will this levy's revenue be used by the Police Department?

Answer: The levy revenue will be used for the operations of the Police Department, including, the purchasing and equipping police vehicles as well as other necessary equipment for the Police Department's use. This levy revenue will also be used to pay salaries, benefits, and insurance of Police Officers.



Question: How much revenue will this levy generate and what is the taxpayer cost?

Answer: This levy will generate a replacement value of approximately \$378,150 at 100% collection versus the current revenue of \$96,670 at 100% collection. This amounts to an approximate net increase of \$281,480 per year. The Original 1.50 mill Levy passed in 1976 that generates \$96,670 would be eliminated and replaced to reflect today's dollars.

This continuing 1.5 mill replacement levy would cost the owner of a single family owner-occupied home with a market value of \$100,000 approximately \$41.76* additional per year.

* Corrected 8/1/2013

Question: What does the current Police vehicle fleet look like today?

Answer: Currently the Police have five marked cruisers and one unmarked vehicle.

- 2013 Ford Taurus Interceptor (AWD) Car#8123- 3614 miles.
- 2012 Ford Taurus Interceptor (AWD) Car#8122- 17,106 miles.
- 2010 Ford Explorer (4WD) Car#8124- 74,167 miles.
- 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Car# 8120- 101,059 miles.
- 2007 Ford Crown Victoria Car# 8121- 109,305 miles.
- 2003 Ford Explorer(4WD) Unmarked Vehicle- 98,862 miles.

The marked vehicles are equipped with:

Police radios for area communications, video cameras, laptop computers to access LEADS (Law Enforcement Data System), rifle, shotgun, digital cameras, and a host of emergency equipment from medical supplies to drug testing kits so the officers are prepared in the field.

Cost per vehicle is approximately \$35,000, which includes installation/setup. The average vehicle miles generated per year are 25,000 and have an expected life of approximately 5 years under normal use. Currently we purchase a new vehicle each year to replace the oldest or highest mileage vehicle.



Question: What is the average Police call volume?

Answer: The Russell Police Department typically receive 5000 calls per year for service.

Question: What type of ongoing training is required by Russell Police personnel?

Answer: Russell Police personnel attend various training every year from specialized investigation techniques to Active Shooter Training. Training also includes departmental monthly training on various subjects.

Question: What staffing is provided by the Russell Police department?

Answer: There are 2 officers on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year on a normal basis.

Question: What is the current staff make up of the Russell Police department?

Answer: Currently we have eight full-time officers, two part-time police officers on staff; this includes the Chief, Lieutenant, and Sergeant. The national average of police officers to residents in the United States is 2.0 officers per 1,000 residents. Russell's current officer to resident ratio is 1.7 officers per 1,000 residents, below the national average and far below that of neighboring communities.

For Russell's 5,190 residents, our staff should be at 10.4 officers to meet the national average.

There is one full time Administrative Assistant during business hours and one part time Administrative Assistant part time in the evenings or on weekends if needed to assist the residents.